

Serve your country. Serve your community. Serve DC!

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www.Serve.DC.gov

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Chinese Olympic Committee Studies Serve DC's Programs



Millicent Williams, Serve DC Deputy Director of Programs, showcases the contents within the CERT kits.



The Chinese Olympic Committee seeks to attract post secondary and college student volunteers like the recent CERT graduates at Serve DC's Learn & Serve site, Friendship Public Charter School.

The Chinese Olympic Delegation Committee met with Serve DC staff to discuss the spirit of volunteerism and volunteer management initiatives. The Chinese Delegation plans to rally a total of 100,000 volunteers for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, with 70,000 volunteers assisting in the Summer Olympics and an additional 30,000 for the Paralympic Games. The Committee aims to attract primarily post secondary and college students from across the globe to serve as volunteers.

Serve DC staff members discussed the volunteer structures of AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve, National Service, and Citizen Corps programs. These programs build a spirit of service by engaging volunteers in public safety, health, education and environmental objectives. Through these programs Serve DC has recruited and retained thousands of volunteers. Staff members discussed incentives for bringing volunteers on board and keeping them motivated like professional development skills, education awards, teamwork, emergency management skills, and a broadened cultural awareness.

Of particular interest to the Committee was the emergency response "go" kits Serve DC provides to all Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trained emergency responders. The kit consists of first aid items, duct tape, batteries, a flashlight and various other items useful in ensuring both public and personal safety in the event of a disaster or an emergency. Serve DC provided the delegation a sample "go" kit along with additional program reference materials.

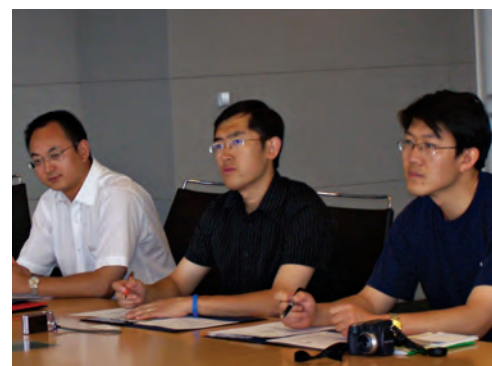
The Beijing Olympics will consist of four volunteer projects: "Towards Olympics" voluntary service, Olympic Games-time volunteer, the Paralympic Games-time volunteer and the Pre-Games volunteer project. Volunteers will reside in college dormitories or with local youth during the summer games. Serve DC looks forward to assisting the Chinese Olympic Committee in their broader efforts around volunteerism and community service. ★



Executive Director James Cooper discusses Serve DC's volunteer management system and how to best motivate volunteers.



AmeriCorps Program Coordinator John Savage details the volunteer opportunities provided by the program.



Chinese delegates take notes as Serve DC staff discuss the rewards of volunteerism.

In this issue...



CERT Unites with EMT Corps on July 4



Nominate a Community Member for the Mayor's Community Service Award



One of more than 200 attendees at the Life After AmeriCorps Conference

CERT Unites with EMT Corps on July 4th



CERT trainees discuss unit objectives in preparation for the July 4th event.

On July 4th Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members joined forces with the DC Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Corps to accommodate the health and medical needs of an estimated 200,000 residents and visitors gathered on the National Mall in celebration of Independence Day.

In preparation for the event CERT members underwent training provided by Serve DC and DC Emergency Health and Medical Services Administration to learn the specific roles and responsibilities required of members of a medical response task group. Specialized lesson plans covered environmental and medical emergencies, patient assessment, bleeding, shock, vital signs and patient history.



EMT Corps partnered with CERT to provide medical aid.



CERTs exercised their first aid training to prepare for the July 4th event.

At the celebration there were 160 recorded incidents ranging from ankle injuries to heat exhaustion providing a comprehensive exercise of the Incident Command System and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Operation skills. Due to inclement weather, CERTs were also instrumental in carrying out evacuation procedures for patients and medical emergency responders during a mass gathering event.

The convergence of CERT and DC EMT Corps provided a thorough, well-equipped operational response mechanism for the citizens and visitors of the District of Columbia. Future partnerships are in order as CERT members look to become EMT Corps certified. ★



CERTs were well prepared for the 160 health related incidents.



Dear Friends...

Serve DC continues to foster a spirit of service in the District of Columbia. We continue to strive for excellence with a heightened focus on program management, training and establishing new and divergent partnerships.

Serve DC staff recently attended the National Conference in Seattle to learn ways to be more effective in program management. Staff participated in workshops focused on emergency volunteer management, service learning, disability inclusion, fiscal management, grantee training and volunteer leadership development.

We put the newly acquired volunteer management principles to use in our Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) training program as we, in partnership with the Emergency Health and Medical Services Administration, conducted training sessions and ultimately provided aid during the July 4th 2006 Independence Day celebration at the National Mall. In revamping our CERT curriculum we held a CERT

train-the-trainer session to prepare the highest qualified instructors. In facilitating the vision of Serve DC we have integrated our programs to provide CERT training for AmeriCorps and Learn & Serve members, the business community, office workers and our community at large.

The Life After AmeriCorps Conference was a success as we provided interactive development sessions for members to assist in their transition out of service. Future trainings are in order as we aim to increase the volunteer base of our programs (partners) and advance the scope of their outreach. In a commitment to our mission of strengthening the spirit of service through volunteerism, national service and partnerships, we will honor community volunteers for their hard work at the Serve DC Community Awards ceremony planned later this year. Serve your country. Serve your community. Serve DC!

James E. Cooper, Jr., MPA
Executive Director
Serve DC

Life After AmeriCorps Conference

Serve DC and the DC InterCorps Council presented the 2nd Annual Life After AmeriCorps Conference at The George Washington University on June 9, 2006. The goal of the one day conference was to assist AmeriCorps members in transitioning out of their year of service. Members from 150 AmeriCorps programs across the District, including National Direct and VISTA, were in attendance.

Workshops were held focusing on financial planning, understanding of the education award, networking, skill assessment, and resume writing. The conference also included a "Next Steps Fair" to enable participants to connect with 40 representatives of higher education institutions and local employers. Throughout the day AmeriCorps alums were on hand to provide guidance to members and recant their own personal experiences.

The annual conference grants members an opportunity to reflect on important decisions about future employment and education while learning to market their AmeriCorps experience. Members are also provided with a plethora of resources so they can remain committed to a lifetime of service. ★



City Year AmeriCorps members attended the "Marketing Yourself" workshop.



The Life After AmeriCorps conference had over 200 participants.

AmeriCorps members attended workshops focused on personal and professional development post AmeriCorps.



Serve DC staff pictured with Corporation State Program Director and Serve DC commissioner Rosetta Freeman Busby.

Recognize ★ Reward ★ Promote

The Mayor's Community Service Award was created to reward and recognize residents of DC who have demonstrated a commitment to volunteer service and civic participation. Service can be done in a variety of ways to meet community needs, such as mentoring a child, feeding the hungry and keeping our neighborhoods safe. The Mayor's Community Service Award is given monthly to one adult and one youth (age 24 or younger). The judging panel consists of The Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners (ANCs), one from each of the eight wards, one staff member, and two Commissioners from Serve DC (DC-CNCS). Nominations forms are currently available at www.serve.dc.gov, and being accepted until September 2006 for the current year. ★



Serve DC Events Calendar 2006

- 8/4 Raise \$\$\$, Raise People** answers questions such as "Where can I find volunteer leaders now?" and "How can I develop their roles in resource development?"
- 8/4 The Value of Your Program's Brand** learn how marketing and brand loyalty begins within your organization in order to generate the outside resources to support your mission
- 8/11 Leveraging Additional Volunteers** through identifying & selecting community partners, developing quality projects, infusing service learning into every volunteer experience, and leading volunteers in reflection exercises
- 9/1 Mayor's Community Service Award** application deadline to be eligible to receive an award at the Serve DC Community Awards ceremony
- 9/5 Commander Ready Launch** for Youth Emergency Preparedness Training in DC Public Schools
- 9/11 One Day's Pay** a nationwide community service event in commemoration of September 11th
- 9/11 CERT Drill** emergency management simulation
- 11/9 Serve DC Community Awards** ceremony to honor District of Columbia residents who have shown a commitment to service

For more information regarding an event or story please contact Dy Brown, Communications Director (Dy.Brown@dc.gov) or Angela Butcher (Angela.Butcher@dc.gov). Additional information can also be found on Serve DC's website at www.serve.dc.gov or by calling (202)727-7925.

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The mission of Serve DC is to strengthen and promote the District of Columbia's spirit of service through partnerships, national service, and volunteerism.